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Monday, March 3, 2014

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Applications for Second Round of Wisconsin Fast Forward Grants Now Available on Wisconsin Fast Forward Website

\$7.5 million in grant funds available to Wisconsin companies seeking skilled workers

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today announced that companies seeking worker training funds through the Wisconsin Fast Forward program can access the online application system at WisconsinFastForward.com.

"The Wisconsin Fast Forward worker training program is an innovative program that will help connect employers with skilled workers," said Secretary Newson. "Governor Walker's leadership in supporting private-sector job creation enables employers to train workers to their specifications, resulting in a good-paying job and increased opportunities for thousands of Wisconsin workers."

On February 12, Secretary Newson announced the second round of Wisconsin Fast Forward grants at the Wisconsin Economic Development Association conference, which total \$7.5 million in the following categories:

- Manufacturing Occupations, \$1 million, due April 1
- Construction Trades and Related Occupations, \$500,000, due April 1
- Financial Services Occupations, \$1 million, due April 3
- Transportation, Logistics, and Distribution Occupations, \$1 million, due April 3
- Information Technology Occupations, \$1.5 million, due April 8
- Companies with 50 or fewer employees, \$500,000, due April 10
- Health Care and Related Occupations, \$2 million, due April 10

Applicants must use the Wisconsin Fast Forward website to complete their application, including supporting materials. Applications, including any necessary supporting materials, must be submitted by the deadline to be considered for funding. The Office of Skills Development administers the grant program and will serve as a resource for any organizations that need assistance with their application.

Over the coming weeks, Office of Skills Development staff will be participating in application information sessions around Wisconsin, including Superior, Ashland, Phillips, and Medford. Additional sessions will be posted on the Wisconsin Fast Forward website as they are scheduled.

To complete an application or to contact Office of Skills Development staff, visit WisconsinFastForward.com.